Utah Medicaid Provider Manual	Long Term Care Services
Division of Health Care Financing	April 1999

### APPENDIX D

**MEDICAID PUBLICATIONS** 

If my home is exempt for eligibility, will it also be exempt from Estate Recovery?



No, while your home may be exempt for purposes of determining Medicaid eligibility, it will not be exempt from Estate Recovery. However, recovery takes place only after the death of both the recipient and the recipient's spouse.



# What about burial costs and other claims against the estate?

- Burial costs are paid first from the estate of the recipient.
- The state's claim for reimbursement has the same priority as reasonable and necessary medical expenses of the last illness under the Utah Uniform Probate Code.
- The state's claim is paid before other creditors and before the heirs.

Can ORS waive Estate Recovery if it would cause undue hardship?



- Recovery is deferred while there is a surviving spouse.
- If a child of the recipient is under 21, blind, or disabled, estate recovery is waived.
- ORS may waive recovery when the property is the sole income-producing asset and source of support for the survivors (such as a family farm or other family business, which produces a limited amount of income).
- ORS offers the opportunity to apply for an undue hardship waiver in every case.

# Whom can I call for information on Estate Recovery?

 ORS Medical Section 536-8806



• Toll-Free Long Distance 1-800-821-2237

We do not discriminate because of race, color, handicap, national origin, age, sex, political beliefs, or religion. State of Utah

Office of Recovery Services



Division of Health Care Financing

# Estate Recovery Information Bulletin

BES PM 994 2\97 24 30 345

Department of Health Division of Health Care Financing

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

# What is Estate Recovery?



The state recovers

funds from a recipient's estate for Medicaid expenses paid after age 55, provided that there is no child who is blind, or disabled, or under age 21. Recovery takes place **only after** the death of both the recipient **and** the surviving spouse.



### Why Estate Recovery?

- To comply with Federal law, which requires that states pursue Estate Recovery. Section 1917 of the Social Security Act makes estate recovery mandatory.
- To supplement funds available for medical assistance programs and limit the tax burden caused by rising medical costs.
   Funds recouped through Estate Recovery are returned to medical programs to help provide assistance to others in need.
- Utah state law provides for Estate Recovery in Section 26-19-13.

# How does ORS define "estate"?

"Estate" means, regarding a deceased recipient, all real and personal property or other assets included within a decedent's estate (as defined in Utah Code, Section 75-1-201); and a decedent's augmented estate (as defined in Section 75-2-202.)



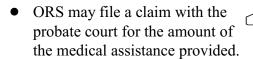
# What medical costs will ORS recover?

ORS recovers costs paid by Medicaid when the recipient was age 55 or older, such as:

- Pharmacy charges.
- Doctor and Hospital charges.
- Ambulance charges.
- Insurance premiums.
- Medical equipment.
- Long-term care costs (both in-home and nursing home).
- QMB expenses.
- All other costs paid under the State Plan.

# How does ORS proceed with **Estate** Recovery?

- ORS does not initiate **any** recovery until after the death of the recipient and the recipient's spouse.
- ORS contacts a representative of the heirs after the death of the recipient.
- ORS may record a lien against real property of a deceased recipient for purposes of Estate Recovery.



 Utah Code states that "...medical assistance correctly paid...is recoverable from the estate of the deceased recipient."



# Will I be required to sign a lien against my home?

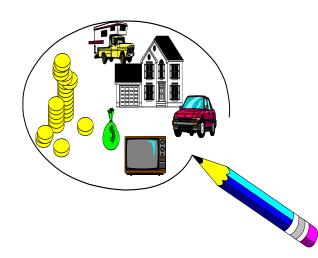
You are not required to sign a lien when you apply for Medicaid. A lien is placed on real property only **after** the death of the recipient and the recipient's spouse.

# ASSESSMENT OF ASSETS

Important information for married people entering a medical institution or seeking medical services under a

Waiver for Home & Community Based services

after September 30, 1989.



We do not discriminate because of race, color, handicap, national origin, age, sex, political beliefs, or religion.

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### WHAT is Assessment?

Assessment of assets is an evaluation of the resources of a married couple. All the assets countable for Medicaid are listed. Then each spouse is told his or her "share". The "share" of the spouse at home will NOT be counted to determine the Medicaid eligibility of the institutionalized spouse, or the spouse who needs waiver services. The purpose is to preserve a portion of assets for the spouse at home.

### WHEN should this be done?

Assessment should be done as soon as possible after entry into the institution, or upon application for home and community based waiver services. Assessment MUST be based on the assets held on the day of the entry, or application for waiver services. If you have a spouse in a nursing home, ask for an assessment NOW, even if you don't need Medicaid yet.

### WHY have an Assessment?

There are three reasons why you need an assessment:

1. Assessment is the first step to getting Medicaid. If an assessment is not done in the month of entry into the nursing home, it may take longer to process your application for Medicaid later. This is because your worker will have to start by verifying the assets you had the month of entry. For waiver applicants, the assessment is done when you first apply for waiver Medicaid.

- 2. If you don't have an assessment, you may improvish yourself. You may assume that you are not eligible for Medicaid because of assets when some of those assets would not be countable.
- 3. Some assets do not count in the assessment such as your home, household furnishings, one car, personal belongings, and some burial plans or life insurance. The assessment will tell you what assets do not count.

### HOW do I get an Assessment?

Here are four easy steps:

- 1. Go to your local Bureau of Eligibility Services Office or Dept. Of Workforce Services.
- 2. Ask for an assessment.
- 3. Complete the Form 61A or 61M, and 61S.
- 4. Give the Forms, and proof of your assets, to your eligibility worker.

Always check with your eligibility worker before you transfer any assets. A transfer of assets could cause you to be ineligible for Medicaid.

A list of Medicaid Eligibility offices is found on the back of this form.

HOW MUCH does it cost?

The Assessment is FREE!

### CONTACT THE BUREAU OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICES IN YOUR AREA FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Northern Region

#### Cache, Rich, Box Elder

1050 South 500 West P.O. Box 1000 Brigham City, Utah 84302 734-4000

115 Golf Course Rd. Logan, Utah 84321 787-3500

Nursing Home Applications 1-800-270-1190 or 753-7852

#### Morgan, Weber

2540 Washington Boulevard P.O. Box 349 Ogden, Utah 84402 626-3100

For Nursing Home Applications 392-1776 or 786-1879 or 825-3992

#### Davis

1350 E. 1450 So. Clearfield, UT 84015 776-7300

2465 N. Main Sunset, Utah 84015 776-7600

For Nursing Home Applications 1-800-662-9651: Ext. 543

#### **Central Region**

#### Salt Lake

1385 South State Street Salt Lake City, Utah 84115 468-0000 (Nursing Home)

7292 South State Street Midvale, Utah 84047 567-3800

158 S. 200 W. Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0490 524-9000

36 W. Fremont Salt Lake City, UT 84115 236-6700

720 So. 200 E. Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0527 536-7000

5735 S. Redwood Rd. Taylorsville, UT 84123-2046 269-4700

#### Tooele

305 N. Main Street Tooele, Utah 84074-1655 882-5550

Nursing Home Applicants 374-7823

#### **Mountainlands Region**

#### <u>Utah, Wasatch, Summit</u> Summit

1764 Prospector Park City, Utah 84068 649-6018

150 East Center Street Provo, Utah 84606 374-7800

188 North Main Heber City, Utah 84032 654-1541

910 E. 100 N. Payson, UT 84651-1606 465-5300

Nursing Home Applicants 374-7823 or 374-7845 or 374-7844 or 374-7831

### Juab, Piute, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier, Wavne

201 East 5th North P.O. Box 550 Richfield, Utah 84701 896-1200

50 North Main P.O. Box 112 Nephi, Utah 84648 623-1927

50 South Main, Suite 5 Manti, Utah 84642 835-0720

65 West Center Street (Rear) P.O. Box 589 Fillmore, Utah 84631 743-5304

44 South 350 East Delta, Utah 84624 864-3860

#### Juab, Piute, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne (continued)

Piute County Courthouse Junction, Utah 84740 577-2443 (Thursday only 8-1)

All Nursing Home Applicants, Including Carbon, Garfield, Beaver, Iron, and Kane Counties 1-800-867-2169

## Beaver, Iron, Washington, Garfield, Kane

168 North 100 East St. George, Utah 84770 674-3800 (Nursing Home Applicants Washington County Only)

106 North 100 East Cedar City, Utah 84720 865-5700

190 North 100 East P.O. Box 72 Beaver, Utah 84713 438-2443

310 South 100 East Kanab, Utah 84741 644-5885

Wayne County Courthouse Loa, Utah 84747 836-2406

665 North Main P.O. Box 63 Panguitch, Utah 84759 676-8866

Nursing Home Applicants for counties above except Washington county call Manti Office 1-800-867-2169

#### Region IV

#### Duchesne, Daggett, Uintah

1052 West Market Drive Vernal, Utah 84078 781-4200

140 West 425 South (330-13) Roosevelt, Utah 84066 Nursing Home Applicants call 722-6500

#### Grand

1165 South Highway 191 Moab, Utah 84532 259-3700

#### Carbon, Emery

90 North 100 East Price, Utah 84501 636-2300

45 East 100 South P.O. Box 697 Castle Dale, Utah 84513 381-2387

Nursing Home Applicants for Carbon County call Manti Office 1-800-867-2169

#### San Juan

522 North 100 East Blanding, Utah 84511 678-1400

San Juan County Courthouse P.O. Box 6120 Monticello, Utah 84535 587-2016

Montezuma Creek Clinic Montezuma Creek, Utah 84534 651-3294

Nursing Home Applicants for Emery, Grand, and San Juan counties: call Blanding 678-1416